

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS
CITY COMMISSION
Tuesday, March 8, 2011**

Be it known that the City of La Feria City Commission met in regular session on **Tuesday, March 8, 2011, at 6:30 P.M.** in the City Commission Meeting Room, 115 E. Commercial Avenue, La Feria, Texas 78559. The purpose of said meeting was to consider and take action on those items of City Business as was duly posted by agenda in accordance with State Open Meetings Law. The following City Commission members were present at said meeting.

Mr. Steve Brewer	Mayor
Ms. Lori Weaver	City Commissioner/Mayor Pro Tem
Mr. John Edward Betancourt	City Commissioner
Mr. John Hernandez	City Commissioner
Mr. Victor Gonzalez, Jr.	City Commissioner – Late 6:45 P.M.

Absent: Ms. Angelica P. Baldivia City Commissioner

The following staff members were present.

Mr. Sunny K. Philip	City Manager
Mr. Richard S. Talbert	City Attorney
Ms. Maria Chavero	Finance Director
Ms. Irene Szedlmayer	Planning and Community Dev. Dir.
Ms. Olga Oberwetter	City Secretary

A copy of the signature roster of all others present is attached as a part of the minutes hereof.

At 6:30 P.M., Mayor Steve Brewer asked Commissioner Lori Weaver to give the invocation. After the invocation, Mayor Brewer led everyone present in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America. He then declared that a quorum of the City Commission was present and called the meeting to order.

At this time, Commissioner Lori Weaver moved to excuse Commissioner Angelica P. Baldivia's absence from the meeting. Commissioner John Hernandez seconded the motion, and the motion carried by unanimous vote of the City Commissioners present.

REVIEW AND TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COMMISSION HELD ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2011

After review of the minutes, Commissioner Lori Weaver moved to approve the minutes of proceedings of the previous regular meeting of the City Commission held on Tuesday, February 22, 2011. Commissioner John Hernandez seconded the motion, and the motion carried by unanimous vote of the City Commissioners present.

REVIEW AND TAKE ACTION TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE PREVIOUS SPECIAL AND ANNUAL MEETING OF THE LA FERIA INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (LFIDC) HELD ON THURSDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2010

After review of the minutes, Commissioner John Betancourt moved to approve the minutes of proceedings of the previous special and annual meeting of the La Feria Industrial Development Corporation (LFIDC) held on Thursday, December 9, 2010. Commissioner Lori Weaver seconded the motion, and the motion carried by unanimous vote of the City Commissioners present.

CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE OR DENY RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF LA FERIA AUTHORIZING THE INCLUSION OF WEEKEND VOTING TO BE HELD ON SATURDAY, MAY 7 AND SUNDAY, MAY 8, 2011 AND ESTABLISHING HOURS FOR SATURDAY, MAY 7 TO BE FROM 10:00 A.M. TO 2:00 P.M. AND SUNDAY, MAY 8, FROM 2:00 P.M. TO 6:00 P.M., AND DESIGNATING THAT THE EXTENDED HOURS (12-HOUR DAYS) BE HELD ON MONDAY, MAY 9 AND TUESDAY, MAY 10, 2011 FOR THE CITY GENERAL ELECTION 2011 AND ESTABLISHING HOURS FOR MONDAY, MAY 9 AND TUESDAY, MAY 10, TO BE FROM 8:00 A.M. TO 8:00 P.M.

City Manager Sunny K. Philip explained that the resolution was all-inclusive and provides for weekend and extended hours to allow voters every opportunity to vote. He recommended approval. Commissioner John Hernandez moved to read the resolution by caption only, in lieu of reading it in its entirety. Commissioner Lori Weaver seconded the motion, and the motion carried by unanimous vote of the City Commissioners present. City Attorney Mr. Richard S. Talbert read the caption of Resolution 2011-09. After reading of the caption, Commissioner John Betancourt moved to approve Resolution 2011-09 authorizing the inclusion of weekend voting to be held on Saturday, May 7 and Sunday, May 8, 2011 and establishing hours for Saturday, May 7 to be from 10:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. and Sunday, May 8, from 2:00 P.M. to 6:00 P.M., and designating that the extended hours (12-hour days) be held on Monday, May 9 and Tuesday, May 10, 2011 for the City General Election 2011 and establishing hours for Monday, May 9 and Tuesday, May 10, to be from 8:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M. Commissioner John Hernandez seconded the motion, and the motion carried by unanimous vote of the City Commissioners present.

CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE OR DENY RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF LA FERIA, CAMERON COUNTY, TEXAS, ORDERING A GENERAL ELECTION IN THE CITY OF LA FERIA ON SATURDAY, MAY 14, 2011 FOR THE PURPOSE OF ELECTING A CITY COMMISSIONER FOR POSITION NUMBER THREE, A CITY COMMISSIONER FOR POSITION NUMBER FOUR, AND A CITY COMMISSIONER FOR POSITION NUMBER FIVE ON THE CITY COMMISSION TO HOLD OFFICE FOR A PERIOD OF THREE YEARS, DESIGNATING POLLING PLACES, PROVIDING FOR DESIGNATION OF OFFICERS FOR SUCH ELECTION, ORDERING NOTICE OF ELECTION TO BE GIVEN AS PRESCRIBED BY LAW IN CONNECTION WITH SUCH ELECTION, AND PROVIDING FOR OTHER MATTERS RELATING TO THE GENERAL ELECTION

City Manager Sunny K. Philip said this resolution is similar to the resolutions approved in the past when ordering a City General Election. It names Mario Gonzales as the Election Judge and Betty Jo Dunlap as the Alternate Election Judge, as well as specifies the pertinent hours for early voting and Election Day. Mr. Philip recommended approval. Commissioner John Betancourt moved to read the resolution by caption only, in lieu of reading it in its entirety. Commissioner John Hernandez seconded the motion, and the motion carried by unanimous vote of the City Commissioners present. City Attorney Mr. Richard S. Talbert read the caption of Resolution 2011-10. After reading of the caption, Commissioner John Betancourt

moved to approve Resolution 2011-10 ordering a General Election in the City of La Feria on Saturday, May 14, 2011 for the purpose of electing a City Commissioner for position number three, a City Commissioner for position number four, and a City Commissioner for position number five on the City Commission to hold office for a period of three years, designating polling places, providing for designation of officers for such election, ordering notice of election to be given as prescribed by law in connection with such election, and providing for other matters relating to the General Election. Commissioner John Hernandez seconded the motion, and the motion carried by unanimous vote of the City Commissioners present.

CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF THE FINAL PLAT OF LA SIESTA ESTATES SUBDIVISION, A 92-ACRE TRACT SOUTHWEST OF THE CITY OF LA FERIA, BEING ALL OF BLOCK PS AND THE NORTH ONE-HALF OF BLOCK QS, AS SHOWN ON THE MAP OF THE SANTA MARIA WATER CONTROL AND IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

Planning and Community Development Director Ms. Irene Szedlmayer reviewed the plat with the City Commission. She said this is a 60-lot subdivision located on FM 2556 south of the Arroyo Colorado. This subdivision is inside the city's 5 mile ETJ and subject to the City's subdivision review. The Planning and Zoning Commission reviewed the plat and is recommending approval to the City Commission. This is Phase I of a proposed two phase subdivision intended for single family homes including mobile homes. The infrastructure has already been built. The lots will be served by Military Highway Water Supply Corporation. Ms. Szedlmayer said that there is a natural gas pipe line that traverses lots one through 14 and the developer has requested that the Gas Company install very visible signs. The Gas Company has complied with that request. Drainage Improvements will handle a 25 year storm. Variances are required in La Feria subdivision ordinance if the requirements are not met. The developer sought variances for a 24 ft. wide street as opposed to 29 ft. as required. The city's ordinance requires that lights be installed, but there is no one to pay AEP for those lights so no lights will be installed. The other variance is no curb and gutter on streets. Ms. Szedlmayer said the Planning and Zoning Commission's and staff's recommendation is to approve the platt with the variances of no street curb and gutter, no lights, and a 24 ft. wide street. Commissioner Lori Weaver moved to approve the final plat of the Siesta Estates Subdivision, a 92-acre tract southwest of the City of La Feria, being all of Block PS and the north one half of Block QS, as shown on the map of the Santa Maria Water Control and Improvement District, with the variances of no street curb and gutter, no lights, and the 24 ft. wide street. Commissioner John Betancourt seconded the motion, and the motion carried by unanimous vote of the City Commissioners present.

EXECUTIVE (CLOSED) SESSION PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE OPEN MEETINGS LAW CHAPTER 551, GOVERNMENT CODE, VERNON'S TEXAS CODES ANNOTATED, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE AUTHORITY CONTAINED IN SECTION 551.072 TO DISCUSS PROPOSED PURCHASE/SALE/DONATION OF REAL ESTATE BY THE LA FERIA INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION/CITY OF LA FERIA; AND SECTION 551.087 TO DISCUSS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT NEGOTIATIONS

There was no need for an Executive Session, so Commissioner Lori Weaver moved to table this item. Commissioner John Betancourt seconded the motion, and the motion carried by unanimous vote of the City Commissioners present.

CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION DEEMED NECESSARY AS THE RESULT OF EXECUTIVE (CLOSED) SESSION DELIBERATIONS

Commissioner Lori Weaver moved to table this item. Commissioner John Betancourt seconded the motion, and the motion carried by unanimous vote of the City Commissioners present.

At this point, Commissioner Lori Weaver moved to amend her initial motion excusing Commissioner Angelica P. Baldivia's absence for this meeting to include Commissioner Victor Gonzalez' absence. Commissioner John Betancourt seconded the motion, and the motion carried by unanimous vote of the City Commissioners present.

Commissioner Victor Gonzalez, Jr. walked in at this point in the meeting.

REPORTS BY STAFF

- **WATER AND WASTEWATER IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS.**
- **DISASTER RECOVERY STREET IMPROVEMENT PROJECT CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS**
- **GAME HALL OPERATION IN LA FERIA**

City Manager Sunny K. Philip reported on the following:

- The filter project funded through ARRA funds is complete. Final inspection will be done tomorrow. With these improvements, the filtration capacity is four million gallons and the clarification capacity is three million gallons.
- The SLC project is moving forward. The new contractor has started the work already and plans to finish by April 15, 2011.
- The sewer pressure main from Lilac Lift Station to the Wastewater Treatment Plant is almost complete. Lacking is the installation of an odor control unit.
- The City Commission will be considering in the near future a subdivision plat for Another Closet and in connection with that development the developer is proposing an 8" water main to the site. The City of La Feria Master Plan calls for a 10" line, and staff will be working with the developer to increase the size of the line with the City paying the difference in cost of the 10" vs. the 8" line.
- The Allied Waste Project water and sewer line extension design is complete.
- Game Hall Operation in La Feria – Two or three places had more than five machines in the community. They have requested that they be allowed five machines only. Some are 8-liners and some are V sweeps.
- Disaster Street Project – A walk through and punch list will be done tomorrow.
- The Little Light House Project is complete.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mayor Steve Brewer declared the public comment session open and acknowledged Mr. James Oates. Mr. Oates said he had a few items to discuss. First, he said that a car exhibited in the Car Show was playing very loud music with lyrics full of profanity. He asked that wheel chair accessible restrooms be available at the Fiesta. He also requested that the Ballet Folklorico perform outdoors as it was difficult to enter the Cultural Arts Center during their performance. He said he would be filing a request to the City for some of their pictures. Mr. Oates stated that all in all it was a very good Fiesta. Mayor Brewer thanked him for his constructive comments. No one else signed up to speak before the City Commission, so Mayor Brewer declared the public comment session closed.

ACTION FOR ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to conduct, Commissioner Lori Weaver moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner John Betancourt seconded the motion, and the motion carried by unanimous vote of the City Commission.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Steve Brewer adjourned the meeting at 6:54 P.M.

APPROVED:



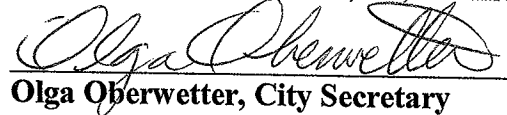
Steve Brewer, Mayor

ATTEST:



Olga Oberwetter, City Secretary

These minutes were prepared and filed with the City of La Feria at 2:30 P.M. on March 18, 2011, as official record.



Olga Oberwetter, City Secretary

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CITY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING
AT THE
CITY COMMISSION MEETING ROOM
TUESDAY, MARCH 8, 2011, AT 6:30 PM

WELCOME
PLEASE SIGN IN

<u>NAME</u>	<u>MAILING ADDRESS</u>	<u>HOME/WORK PHONE NO.</u>
1 <i>Brett Kyant</i>	<i>915 Morgan Blvd, Harlingen, TX 78551</i>	<i>(956) 428-4014</i>
2 <i>Rosa Turner</i>		
3 <i>Liana Brewer</i>		
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